### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): HIRANO et al.

Atty. Dkt.: 01-584

Serial No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit:

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Examiner:

Title: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents Arlington, VA 22202

Date: March 18, 2004

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 is/are submitted for consideration by the Examiner without any admission that it/they constitute(s) statutory prior art, or without any admission that it/they contain(s) subject matter that anticipates the invention or renders the invention obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached PTO Form-1449 and to return a copy of same to the undersigned attorney as proof that the listed reference(s) has/have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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## \* PATENT APPLICATION

Page 1 of 1

| FORM PTO-1449 | ATTY. DKT<br>NO. | 01-584         | SER. NO. |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
|               | APPLICANT        | HIRANO et al.  |          |
|               | FILING DATE      | March 18, 2004 | GROUP    |

### REFERENCE DESIGNATION

### **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER                                                                               | DATE          | NAME  | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------|-------|--------------|
|                     | 6,542,365 (English counterpart of JP-A-2001-352023 which is discussed in pages 1-2 of the spec.) | April 1, 2003 | Inoue |       |              |
|                     |                                                                                                  |               |       |       |              |
|                     |                                                                                                  |               |       |       |              |
|                     |                                                                                                  |               |       |       |              |

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

TRANSLATION

| DOCUMENT NUMBER  | DATE    | COUNTRY | NAME | CLASS    | SUB<br>CLASS | YES -          | МО               |
|------------------|---------|---------|------|----------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
|                  |         |         |      |          |              |                | Eng.<br>Abstract |
| JP-A-2001-267481 | 9/28/01 | JAPAN   |      |          |              | X              | X                |
| JP-U-S61-33448   | 2/28/86 | JAPAN   |      |          |              | X<br>(Partial) |                  |
| JP-A-H09-199647  | 7/31/97 | JAPAN   |      |          |              | X              | Х                |
|                  |         |         |      | <u> </u> |              |                |                  |
|                  |         |         |      |          |              |                |                  |
|                  |         |         |      |          |              |                |                  |

<sup>\*</sup> Full English text is available in machine-translated form in JPO (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

| EXAMINER |  | <br>DATE CONSIDERED |  |
|----------|--|---------------------|--|
|          |  | <br><u> </u>        |  |

Rev. 10/94 (Form 3.05)